

National Aeronautics and Space Administration



Socioeconomic Data and Applications Center



Columbia University in the City of New York



World Data Center for Human Interactions in the Environment



# Thematic Guides to Human Dimensions of Global Environmental Change

http://sedac.ciesin.columbia.edu/tg/

#### **Overview**

CIESIN Thematic Guides offer overviews of some of the key topics and issues that pertain to human interactions in the environment and global change. The primary objective of the Thematic Guides is to provide an online resource that allows researchers. policy makers, educators, and the public to quickly access background materials from multiple disciplines on key global change issues, and to locate key data sets and information resources. The guides complement data available from the Socioeconomic Data and Applications Center (SEDAC) by providing contextual and background information.

Newer guides (released in 2002) provide extensive bibliographies of references and related resources, including online articles, reports, research project summaries and data sets, as well as many print publications. The bibliographies are dynamically linked to sections within the guides and are fully searchable, as well as being indexed by keyword.

### **Topics**

The recently released Thematic Guides cover the following topics:

Land-Use and Land-Cover Change (LUCC). Produced in collaboration with the LUCC Project, this guide provides a summary of research in the following areas: deforestation, desertification, biodiversity loss, the water and carbon cycles, and urbanization.

Population Projections: The result of two peer-reviewed publications, this guide provides a complete review of this cornerstone to global change scenario-building.

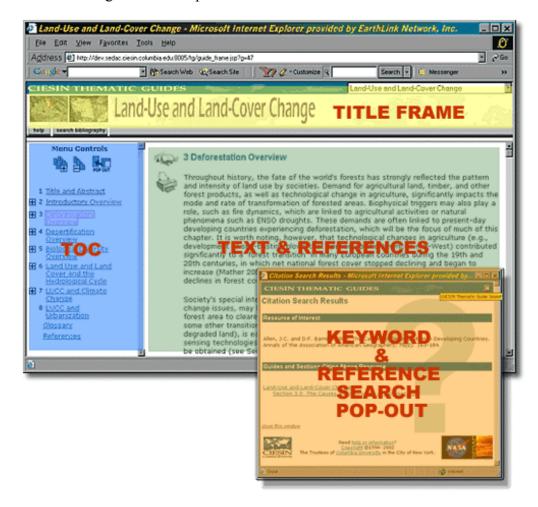
Social Science Applications of Remote Sensing. This guide provides numerous examples of the use of remote sensing to answer social science research questions.

In addition, several archived guides dating from the mid-1990s cover topics such as agriculture, human health, ozone depletion, political institutions, and remote sensing.

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#### **Thematic Guide Interface**

The following features are part of the new Thematic Guide interface:



The **Table of Contents** (TOC) frame provides the ability to navigate between sections of the guide easily, and to view only chapter headings or all chapter, section and subsection headings at once. The **Text & References** frame allows the user to toggle between guide sections and the related references for that particular section. References provide the resource name, the source, a brief abstract, a URL for internet accessible resources, and keywords. By clicking on a keyword, the user brings up the **Keyword Pop-Out** window. This window allows the user to find all references in the Thematic Guide bibliographic database (which includes more than 3,000 citations) that utilize that particular keyword.

The Thematic Guides and accompanying bibliographies are updated as new resources become available. For information on the current contents of each guide, please visit the Thematic Guide home page: http://sedac.ciesin.columbia.edu/tg/



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